

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61
to be used until exhausted)

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE
PRIORITY

INFO PRECEDENCE
NONE

SPECIAL HANDLING
NONE

FROM: USN 27

DATE: 24 AUG 64

ACT

DISTRIBUTION

TO: CNO
DIRNAVSECGRU
CINCPACFLT
DIRNSA
ASSTDIRNAVSECGRU
DIRNAVSECGRUPAC

COMSEVENTHFLT
CTF 72

INFO

B2
ADNSG
B22
B23
B26
D31
P04
P05
P055
P2
DRF

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

JULY-AUGUST DESOTO PATROL ADVANCE SIGINT REPORT (S)

NSA25X3

OIC USN 467N SENDS

1. INTERCEPT:

A. DURING THE PATROL, 7 HOURS AND 49 MINUTES OF PROBABLE NORTH VIETNAMESE VOICE TRAFFIC WAS INTERCEPTED. ALL BUT 24 MINUTES OF THIS WAS POSSIBLE NAVAL TRAFFIC INTERCEPTED ON 125.0E AND 131.0E MCS.

B. ON 5 AUG, 36 MINUTES OF UNIDENTIFIED [REDACTED] VOICE TRAFFIC WAS INTERCEPTED ON [REDACTED]

C. A TOTAL OF 136 HOURS AND 54 MINUTES OF MANUAL MORSE TRAFFIC WAS INTERCEPTED. INCLUDED IN THIS WERE 17 HOURS AND 27 MINUTES OF [REDACTED] NAVAL TRAFFIC AND 96 HOURS AND 41 MINUTES OF NORTH VIETNAMESE NAVAL TRAFFIC.

P.L. 86-36

2. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS:

DRAFTER

RELEASING OFFICER

RELEASED AT (ZULU)

Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

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AGI NR.

50494

AGO NR.

REFERS TO MESSAGE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

DTG

240245Z

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SUS

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DISTRIBUTION

A. WHILE ENROUTE TO THE GULF OF TONKIN ON 29 AND 30 JULY AND
AT OTHER TIMES DURING THE PATROL WHEN THE MADDOX WAS OPERATING
NEAR THE [REDACTED]

NSA25X3

[REDACTED] REACTION TO THE MISSION WAS NOTED.

B. ALTHOUGH THE MADDOX OPERATED IN THE VICINITY OF 17-05N
107-18E ON 31 JUL, NO DRV REFLECTION OF THE MISSION WAS NOTED
UNTIL 010136Z. AT THAT TIME A TRACKING STATION LOCATED AT
VINH SON (17-56N 106-28E) BEGAN PASSING SIGHTINGS OF THE MADDOX.
TRACKING BY CARIOUS STATIONS CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE PATROL,
AND WAS ESPECIALLY HEAVY BETWEEN 1 AND 4 AUG. THIS ENABLED THE
DETACHMENT TO TENTATIVELY LOCATE SIX OF THE DRV COASTAL
TRACKING STATIONS.

C. DRV NAVAT VESSELS SHADOWED THE MADDOX (AND LATER THE C.
TURNER JOY) ALMOST CONTINUOUSLY WHILE THEY WERE OPERATING IN THE
GULF OF TONKIN. SWINOW CLASS PGM'S WERE USED PRIMARILY IN THIS
ACTIVITY, WITH T142 AND T146 BEING ESPECIALLY ACTIVE AS SHADOWS.

D. AT 011626Z A PORTION OF A MSG WAS INTERCEPTD WHICH
MENTIONED THE "CHANGE OF TH ENEMY." LATER INTERCEPT INDICATED
THE POSSIBILITY OF AN ATTACK ON THE MADDOX IN THE VICINITY OF
HON NGU (18-48N 105-47E) AND HON NE (19-54N 106-01E). THE MADDOX

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SUSPENSE

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PRIORITY

INFO PRECEDENCE
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SPECIAL HANDLING
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DISTRIBUTION

MOVED AWAY FROM THE COAST FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE NIGHT AND NO
HOSTILE ACTION OCCURED.

E. ON 2 AUG, HEAVY TRACKING BY COP'S AND CLOSE SURVEILLANCE
BY DRV NAVAL VESSELS WAS AGAIN NOTED IN COMINT. INTERCEPT
ALSO INDICATED THE POSSIBILITY OF A TORPEDO ATTACK BY VESSELS
OF 135 (BELIEVED TO BE MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT FLOTILLA 135). THE
MADDOX WAS ATTACKED BY THREE MTB'S AT 0808Z.

F. ON 4 AUG, MSGS RECEIVED FROM USN 414T AND USM 626J INDICATED
THE POSSIBILITY OF AN ATTACK ON THE DESOTO VESSELS THAT NIGHT.
THIS WAS THE ONLY INFORMATION THE DETACHMENT RECEIVED PRIOR TO
THE 4 AUG ATTACK BY AN UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF MTB'S.

G. MSGS INTERCEPTED AFTER THE 5 AUG ATTACK BY CARRIER-
BASED PLANES ON DRV NAVAL VESSELS AND SUPPORTING INSTALLATIONS
REVEALED CONCERN BY DRV OFFICIALS OVER THE SAFETY OF BOTH
NAVAL AND COMMERCIAL VESSELS AND VARIOUS MEASURES TAKEN TO
INSURE THEIR SECURITY.

DRAFTER

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SUSPENSE

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